AMETEK®
PROGRAMMABLE POWER

Frequently Asked Questions
Elgar SWxxxxA series

SUMMARY OF QUESTIONS

Q1. Can I parallel multiple SW series units for higher current capability?

Q2. How do I place the output phases into parallel mode if I need single phase output that exceeds the phase current of my SW series source?

Q3. Can I store a set of parameters for the power up condition of the SW?

Q4. Do I need to have a neutral connection on the input of my SW series source?

Q5. Can I use the RS-232 port on the rear panel of the SW for controlling the device?

Q6. Can I remove the ground bonding jumpers (GND to NEUT) that tie the output neutral of my SW series product to the chassis ground?

Q7. Can I connect my delta configuration load to the SW wye output?

Q8. How do I use remote sense when using a delta load with my SW series unit?

Q9. Can I get more than 13A current output from my SW Series unit that is rated at 1750VA per phase, if my application is at a low voltage where the VA limit stays below 1750?

Q10. Can I get a SW series source that can run on single phase input power at 120VAC?

Q11. Can the SW series phase lock to an external clock or to another AC source?

Q12. Can a clock signal output be provided for a frequency and / or phase reference?

Q13. Why do I not see an output voltage on the BNC connectors on the front panel?

Q14. If my sense leads disconnect, will the output jump to full scale?

Q15. Can my SW operate on a 400Hz input?

Q16. What is the difference between the SW series that have A, AE, L, M and S in the model numbers?

Q17. Can I make multiple single chassis systems from a SW system built up with a master chassis and one or more slaves?

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

A1. Can I parallel multiple SW series units for higher current capability?

No, the SW series sources cannot utilize multiple standard chassis operated in parallel. The larger SW series units utilize a dedicated master unit, a current summing unit (the PDU) and 1 to 3 dedicated slave chassis. Your single chassis SW may be able to be converted to a master and have the PDU and slave(s) added at the factory to achieve higher current outputs. Contact mailto:service@programmablepower.com for more information.

[Return to Summary of Questions]

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A2. How do I place the output phases into parallel mode if I need single phase output that exceeds the phase current of my SW series source?

First, remove AC input power from the unit.

Second, fabricate jumpers that will tie the A, B and C outputs together.

Third, fabricate a similar jumper to tie the three neutrals together.

Fourth, attach the parallel outputs to your load.

Fifth, tell the SW to use the parallel outputs, either via the front panel or via GPIB. (NOTE: The output relay must be open in order to set the parallel mode to ON or OFF.)

Via front panel: Select the INSTR menu; at the bottom of the INSTR menu select the PARALLEL option; use the encoder to change the option to ON.

Via GPIB: Send the command, SYST:PARAL ON

Any program voltage setting will be removed and set to 0 when changing the parallel mode.

If you intend to use the SW in this mode for a more-or-less permanent condition, set the power-on defaults so that you do not have to set the parallel mode to ON each time the unit is turned on. See the FAQ on storing a set of parameters for the power up condition of the SW.

[Return to Summary of Questions]

A3. Can I store a set of parameters for the power up condition for the SW?

Yes. First, set any parameters you need to keep (these may be voltage, frequency, Vlim, parallel mode, etc).

Next, select the SYSTEM menu from the front panel. In the SYSTEM menu, select USER. In the menu to the right, select SAVE SYSTEM CNFG and press ENTER. This will save your settings. **NOTE**: The output relay cannot be set to close on power up. The output relay always requires a front panel or GPIB command to close.

[Return to Summary of Questions]

A4. Do I need to have a neutral connection on the input of my SW series source?

For some versions of the SW series, an input neutral is not required. Check the full model number that appears on the nameplate, which is located on the right side panel of the chassis when facing the front. An example model number would look like: SW5250A-1-3-2 or SW3500A-3-3-1. The first number after the initial seven-character grouping indicates the unit's input configuration. If the input configuration is a "1" (as in the first example model number) or a "3" (as in the second example model number), it utilizes a 3-phase input at a nominal 208V line to line, and does not require a neutral connection even though a neutral termination is provided on the input interface (it is not connected internally on these models). Other models in the series (their first number after the initial seven-character grouping, is a "2," a "4" or a "6") *must* have a neutral connection. Refer to the installation section of your manual for additional details on input power requirements (section 2.8).

[Return to Summary of Questions]